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Votes for Women! The American Woman Suffrage Movement And The Nineteenth Amendment

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Jun. 2020. 144p. illus. by Kristelle Rodeia. ISBN 9780711250642. \$16. REF

Achieving cult status doesn't mean outright popularity, according to Smith (update editor, *1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die*), but rather evoking a visceral response in readers and crossing or blurring traditional boundaries of theme, style, and genre. To hone his list of writers to 50 (e.g., Milan Kundera, Octavia E. Butler, Joan Didion, and Haruki Murakami), Smith chose primarily novelists from 1900 to the present and sometimes included one writer as representative of a group (Beat writers, Harlem Renaissance). A one- to three-page biography covers important works and how the writer affected and was affected by their times. Subjects are primarily but not exclusively American or European; about half those profiled are women. With crisp lines and fluid swaths of color, Rodeia's drawings are a delightful addition. **VERDICT** Brief, bright, enlightening, and sure to introduce new names to most readers.

Tran, Michael. *Happy Bonsai: Choose It, Shape It, Love It*. DK. May 2020. 144p. ISBN 9781465491428. \$15. REF

Does nurturing and shaping a tree on a tabletop sound appealing? Do you have three years (or your entire lifetime) to devote to this hobby? Bonsai prodigy Tran not only shapes bonsai on his own but also cares for older bonsai entrusted to him by European masters. Beginning chapters cover the basics of plant types, shape, containers, and masculine and feminine attributes of plants and display. Two-page spreads, festooned with large photos, show remarkable specimens, with tips for watering, feeding, wiring, pruning, and repotting along with plant origin, special care, and more. **VERDICT** A strong choice to attract readers more comfortable with tweezers and tooth brush-size tools than axes or rakes. The beautiful, intricate photos will satisfy many readers, whether or not they choose to pursue the hobby of bonsai trimming on their own.—Maggie Knapp, Trinity Valley Sch., Fort Worth, TX

to aging, brain tumors, chronic substance abuse, traumatic brain injury) to the less familiar (Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease). Written for the layperson, each chapter opens with a single page of general information (disease description, prevalence), followed by disease-specific resource lists of national and state associations, libraries, foundations and research centers, support groups and hotlines, magazines, and websites. Four appendixes include a mediagraphy (film,

fiction, television, music), a glossary, an entry index, and a geographic index. Colorful and informative graphics succinctly impart information. The majority of similar titles focus on coping with dementia in general or Alzheimer's disease in particular, making this more broad look immensely useful. **VERDICT** A handy one-stop resource that concentrates on identifying and locating dementia resources by diagnosis. Accurate and useful for those searching for basic information and a resource directory.—Laurie Selwyn, formerly with Grayson Cty. Law Lib., Sherman, TX

HISTORY

Roydhouse, Marion. *Votes for Women! The American Woman Suffrage Movement and the Nineteenth Amendment*.

ABC-CLIO. (Guides to Historic Events in America). Jul. 2020. 265p. ISBN 9781440836701. \$65. REF

Roydhouse (emerita, history, founding director, Ctr. for Teaching Innovation and Nexus Learning, Thomas Jefferson Univ.) tells the story of how American women earned the right to vote through the lens of those who directly fought in suffrage campaigns. Examining their actions in the context of economic, political, and social issues unfolding in the United States during the 19th and early 20th centuries, she illustrates how women organized and put pressure on the U.S. political system, resulting in white women being allowed to participate in local, state, and federal government politics. She also provides insights and perspectives that can help resolve current conflicts over voter registration, polling places, gerrymandering, and other barriers to voter participation. The book follows the same format as other titles in the series: a time line, a historical overview, topical chapters, and an annotated bibliography. Eight compelling chapters form the core; a thought-provoking section is devoted to what happened in the years following passage of the amendment, including how Black women obtained the right to suffrage through the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The 12 primary documents, such as Sojourner Truth's "Address to the American Equal Rights Association" in 1867, and five short biographical essays on suffragists Abigail Duniway, Kate M. Gordon, Leonora O'Reilly, Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, and Maud Younger, are excellent complementary pieces. **VERDICT** A skilled blend of interpretative essays and primary documents about the women's suffrage movement recommended for students, teachers, and general readers.—Rob Tench, Old Dominion Univ. Libs., Norfolk, VA

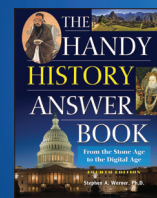
Werner, Stephen A. *The Handy History Answer Book: From the Stone Age to the*

Digital Age. 4th ed. Visible Ink. Sept. 2020. 640p. ISBN 9781578596805. pap. \$24.95.

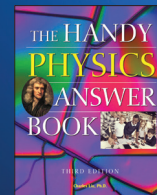
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History overviews can be judged not on their answers but on what is and is not asked. Most questions found in this work are significant, though a few ("Who is Bernie Madoff?") are perhaps ephemeral. Werner (*How To Study Religion*) completely reorganizes and substantially rewrites the previous, third edition by David Hudson, though occasionally perpetuates its errors (e.g., calling the *Diamond Sutra* "the oldest-known book"). The expanded second half is impressively broad, covering science, law, medicine, politics, economics, philosophy, arts and culture, disasters, human rights, exploration, and religion. Few events in world history are discussed, and American interests dominate; however, this edition's improvements are its better layout and illustrations. There are some minor quibbles, though: For instance, there is a brief entry on the War of 1812 but the Hundred Years' War is omitted, and Werner uses the phrase *known world* to mean *Western world*. "Code talkers," Slobodan Milošević, the Khmer Rouge, Kosovo, Che Guevara, and Chechnya, covered in the previous edition, are gone, but Harvey Milk, Nikola Tesla, Alan

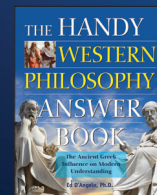
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